Mr. Krishnan Narayanan (*Ampalapuzha*) observed that in the northern taluks transactions were more in the produce of wet and garden lands than in money, but the courts had no law to recognise promissory notes for paddy or cocoanuts as valid instruments. He therefore requested that section 3 of Regulation II of 1075 might be amended so as to afford the relief now prayed for.

Reply.—The suggestion is opposed to the very definition of a promissory note. The Regulation cannot be modified. It is open to the parties to enter into a Kychit which the law recognizes.

199. Levy of toll on foreign carts entering Travancore.

Mr. K. S. Shanmukham Pillai (Agricultural Improvement Association, South Travancore) spoke on the expediency of levying a toll on all foreign carts entering the State. It cost a large amount of money to maintain the present excellent public roads and an arrangement like the one proposed would bring in additional revenue to the Government which could be utilized for this and other purposes. In British India, similar tolls were being levied and even here the practice was abolished only some years ago. To the owners of carts within the State, passes might be given by provertikars for a year, and this would enable them to pass to and fro without being put to any expenditure or trouble.

Reply.—This is an important question and requires legislation.

200. Export of bones and oil-refuse.

Mr. K. S. Shanmukham Pillai (Agricultural Improvement Association, South Travancore) urged that all possible efforts should be made for conserving the bones and oil-refuse of the State for the use of native agriculturists, instead of their being exported as at present to foreign countries free of charge. They formed excellent manure for wet lands, but could not be now easily obtained owing to competition from outside. These articles were being now converted into powders in other countries and by applying them to the soil in his wet lands he found that the quality of the rice was superior and the yield greater than before. The member showed specimens of the rice and rice-flour he had brought with him which, he said, was, the result of the experiments he made on his lands with these powders. He also suggested that an expert might be appointed for teaching the ryots of the State the use of these and other kinds of manure.

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Reply.—The observations of the member will be noted. Government will consider the desirability of levying export duty on these articles.

201. Encouragement of local industries with Government loans.

Mr. S. Swamy Iyengar of Trivandrum (Nominated) requested that local industries might be encouraged by Government with the advancement of money at low interest.

Reply.—This has been already answered. Individual applications for loan will be considered.

Mr. C. Padmanabha Pillai (Karunagapalli) suggested that school-banks might be opened to promote mutual confidence and a spirit of co-operation among the pupils of the numerous English and Vernacular schools maintained by Government.

Reply.—At my instance, Mr. Thiraviam Pillai, Anchal Superintendent, has already drafted certain rules on the subject of Savings Banks and they are now being considered.

202. Post-mortem examination in cases of death by snake-bites.

Mr. K. C. Eapen, B. A., (Kshemathalpara Samajam, Kadappra, Tiruvalla) represented that the present rules regarding post-mortem examinations in cases of death from snake-bites were being abused by the police and medical officers, and this gave rise to considerable hardship to the ignorant people living in the interior parts of the State where such deaths were of frequent occurrence. He prayed for such modifications being introduced in the rules as would tend to mitigate the present difficulty.

Reply.—It is only in suspicious cases of death that post-mortem examination is held. It is perhaps possible that, in some places, the provisions are abused. The Durbar Physician and the Superintendent of Police will be addressed in view to ensure the prompt and satisfactory conduct of such examinations.

203. Appointment of Taluk Boards, Village Panchayets and Honorary Magistrates.

Mr. K. Parameswaran Pillai, B. A., B. L., (Nayar Samajam, Quilon) in whose name this subject stood was not present when called.

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